

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| Applicant | : | R. Russell Stever et al. |
| Appl. No. | : | Unknown |
| Filed | : | Unknown |
| For | : | STORMWATER TREATMENT APPARATUS AND METHOD |
| Examiner | : | Unknown |
| Group Art Unit | : | Unknown |

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to examination on the merits, Applicant respectfully submits the following amendments and comments in connection with the above-captioned application.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 1-43, without prejudice or disclaimer.

44. (Original) A method for purification and separation of a liquid, the method comprising:

 inputting the liquid into a receptacle through an inlet opening;

 interrupting the flow of the liquid around at least one inlet baffle after the inlet opening;

 communicating the liquid through an active pool to an outlet opening, the outlet opening smaller than the inlet opening;

 interrupting the flow of the liquid around at least one outlet baffle before the outlet opening; and

 settling sediments from the flow in the active pool into at least one permanent pool, said permanent pool gravitationally below the active pool.